



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

June 21, 2007

For immediate release

- 1. Rule changes under consideration at July 2 EPC meeting**
- 2. DNR launches new online water information tool**
- 3. DNR to hold illegal dumping community forums statewide July 17 and 18**
- 4. Midwest Radioactive Waste Commission meeting on July 16**

RULE CHANGES UNDER CONSIDERATION AT JULY 2 EPC MEETING

MEDIA CONTACT: Karen Grimes at (515) 281-5135

DES MOINES – The Environmental Protection Commission will decide on two rule changes pertaining to ethanol production facilities and underground storage tank inspections at its meeting July 2.

With commission approval, the DNR would adopt new federal rules that affect permitting activities for ethanol production facilities. Air permitting thresholds under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permitting program for air pollutants emitted from ethanol production facilities would increase from 100 tons per year to 250 tons per year.

Fugitive emissions, or emissions that do not come from process stacks or vents, would not be considered in determining applicability to the PSD program for ethanol production facilities. The rule changes would become effective Sept. 5, 2007, if approved.

Commissioners will consider an emergency rule to transfer licensing for groundwater professionals and underground storage tank (UST) inspectors. Administration of the licensing program would move from the UST board to the Environmental Protection Commission due to changes in state law.

Two contracts with the University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory totaling over \$1.3 million will also be up for the commission's consideration. If approved, the laboratory would monitor water quality in Iowa's streams, lakes and wetlands.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m., with public comments scheduled for 10:30 a.m. The meeting will be held at the DNR Air Quality Building, 7900 Hickman Road, in Urbandale. EPC meetings are regularly scheduled on the first Tuesday of every month, but will take place on a Monday due to the Fourth of July holiday.

The complete agenda follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Director's Remarks
- Contract – Iowa State University – Wetland Performance Monitoring
- Contract – University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory – 2007 Ambient Monitoring and Laboratory Services
- Contract – University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory – 2007 Ambient Biological Monitoring and Laboratory Services
- Contract – United States Geological Survey – Stream Flow Estimation
- Contract – United States Geological Survey – Water Level Measurements
- Contract – Iowa State University – Evaluation of On-Road and Laboratory Engine Dynamometer Emission Tests to Compare the Emission Reduction Potential of Different Biodiesel Blends
- Contract – Iowa Waste Exchange Database Enhancements – Quality Consulting, Inc.
- Final Rule – Water Supply Chapters 40 and 43: Minor Water Main Construction Permit
- Emergency Rule – Amendments to Chapter 134, Certification of Groundwater Professionals and Underground Storage Tank (UST) Compliance Inspectors
- Notice of Intended Action – Amendments to Chapter 135, Technical Standards and Corrective Action Requirements for Owners and Operators of Underground Storage Tanks
- Final Rule Without Notice and Notice of Intended Action: Chapters 22 and 33, Air Quality Program Rules - Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Title V rules for Ethanol Production facilities
- Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 34: Administrative amendments to the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) and Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR) provisions
- Presentation on Air Quality Permitting of Grain Elevators
- 2007 Environmental Enforcement Report
- Household Hazardous Materials Program Presentation
- Use Assessment and Use Attainability Analyses (UA/UAA) Update
- Monthly Reports
- General Discussion

More information about the agenda items can be found on the DNR Web site under Commissions and Boards at www.iowadnr.gov.

The members of the commission are Darrell Hanson, chair, Manchester; Mary Gail Scott, vice chair, Cedar Rapids; Suzanne Morrow, secretary, Storm Lake; Charlotte Hubbell, Des Moines; Henry Marquard, Muscatine; David Petty, Eldora; Ralph Klemme, LeMars and Susan Heathcote, Des Moines. The director of the DNR is Richard Leopold.

Writer: Holly Williams

###

DNR LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE WATER INFORMATION TOOL

Iowa Water Web will cover recreation, scientific data and more

MEDIA CONTACT: Chris Ensminger at (515) 281-4216

DES MOINES — The DNR launched a new interactive online tool today to help Iowans learn more about the state's surface water resources.

The Iowa Water Web, when complete, will offer Iowans information on everything water in Iowa – including information on recreation, watershed improvement and detailed scientific data. To use the Iowa Water Web, visit the DNR Web site at www.iowadnr.gov and click on “Mapping (GIS Interactive)” in the left-side menu bar. From there, click on “Water Web” in the left-hand menu bar.

“The Iowa Water Web is in its very early stages, but we wanted to introduce the public to it this summer as they look for information on swimming at our state park beaches,” said Chris Ensminger, head of the DNR's Geographic Information Systems section. “While the information available right now is limited, we hope that Iowans see the potential of this online tool and let us know what kind of information they'd like to see in the Iowa Water Web in the future.”

Currently, the Iowa Water Web offers information on lakes throughout the state, including the status of every state park beach for swimming, as well as lake management data. Lake management is the work DNR Fisheries staff does on a lake, such as installing fishing jetties, fish stocking and adding aquatic plants. The Iowa Water Web also offers links to lakes with water quality improvement plans, also known as Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and other documents ranging from reports and maps to creel surveys and fish stocking reports.

The Iowa Water Web works as an interactive map – users can search for a lake by name or by zooming in on it. Once a lake is located, a user can choose from available information on that lake. The Iowa Water Web works as a portal, linking users to water information from the DNR and to other sources, such as Iowa State University's Iowa Lakes Database.

The new online tool will continue to grow, adding new information on publicly owned lakes and later, streams, wetlands and watersheds. The DNR anticipates the Iowa Water Web will offer fish survey data by the end of the year. The tool also offers a feedback feature for users to submit suggestions. For help on using the Water Web, users should click on the “Help and Instructions” link directly above the map. Detailed instructions are available for viewing and printing.

Writer: Jessie Brown

#

DNR TO HOLD ILLEGAL DUMPING COMMUNITY FORUMS STATEWIDE JULY 17 AND 18

**MEDIA CONTACT: Tom Anderson, DNR, (515)-281-8623 or
tom.anderson@dnr.state.ia.us**

DES MOINES – The DNR will host three public forums across the state to discuss issues related to illegal dumping prevention and clean-up on July 17 and 18.

The general public is encouraged to attend the forums and give testimonials, presentations and comments regarding illegal dumping and its impacts in Iowa. Information provided will be used to help build a new resource management policy and legislative proposal for Iowa.

Forum locations include:

July 17, 2007

Des Moines: 10:00 a.m. to noon; second floor conference rooms at Wallace State Office Building, 502 E 9th St.

Cedar Rapids: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library, 30 16th Ave SW

July 18, 2007

Iowans can attend one meeting from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the following sites via the Iowa Communications Network:

ALBIA

Albia High School, Room Number 302, 503 B Avenue East

ATLANTIC

Atlantic Middle School, Room Number 109, 1100 Linn St

BURLINGTON

Great River Area Education Agency, 3601 West Avenue

CARROLL

DMACC - Carroll Campus, Room Number 144, 906 North Grant Road

DAVENPORT

Eastern Iowa Community College, Room Number 300, Kahl Educational Center, 326 West 3rd Street

DUBUQUE

University of Dubuque, Room Number T201, Jackaline Baldwin Dunlap Technology Center, 2000 University Avenue

MASON CITY

North Iowa Area Community College, Room Number 106, Activity Center, 500 College Dr.

For more information or copies of the agenda, call Tom Anderson at (515)-281-8623 or tom.anderson@dnr.state.ia.us

Writer: Kati Bainter

###

MIDWEST RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION MEETING ON JULY 16

MEDIA CONTACT: Liz Christiansen at (515) 281-3388 or by e-mail at Liz.Christiansen@dnr.state.ia.us.

DES MOINES – The Midwest Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact Commission will hold its annual meeting by telephone conference call from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Monday, July 16.

The meeting will be held in Conference Room 4E of the Wallace State Office Building, located at 502 E. 9th Street in Des Moines. The public is welcome to attend.

The meeting agenda includes a financial report, action on the 2007-2008 budget and election of officers.

Iowa DNR Deputy Director Liz Christiansen is a commissioner for the organization. Other states represented include Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Writer: Jessie Brown